

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 IO-10 L-03

NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 ACDA-05 SSO-00

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SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

USLOSACLANT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 4246

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGSC MPOL, NATO, CSCE, PARM, PFOR,

SUBJECT: CSCE/CBM'S - AUTUMN FORGE EXERCISE SERIES

REF: A. USDEL 620/75 (NOTAL)

B. USNATO 4230

C. USNATO 4064

BEGIN SUMMARY: AUG 7, POLADS DISCUSSED PUBLIC AFFAIRS ASPECTS AND CSCE/CBM RAMIFICATIONS OF THE AUTUMN FORGE EXERCISE SERIES WITH FOLLOWING RESULTS: A) BOARD CONSENSUS OF ALLIED FAVORED AUTUMN FORGER DRAFT PRESS RELEASE AND RECOMMEND IT TO AUG 8 DPC CONSIDERATION WITH ADDITIONAL DANISH LANGUAGE COVERING CBM NOTIFICATION OF COMPONENT EXERCISES; B) POLADS CHAIRMAN WILL REPORT TO DPC ON DIVERSITY OF OPINION REGARDING US PROPOSAL FOR GENERAL CBM NOTIFICATION OF OVERALL AUTUMN FORGE SERIES (CANADA, AND ITALY IN FAVOR; BELGIUM, DENMARK, FRG, AND NETHERLANDS PRESENTLY OPPOSED; BUT WE DETECT SOME MOVEMENT TOWARD US POSITION); C) ALLIES SEEM NEAR CONFIDENTIAL

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AGREEMENT THAT FRG DRAFT CBM NOTIFICATION OF EXERCISE "GROSSE ROCHADE" IS ACCEPTABLE AND USEFUL ILLUSTRATIVE TEXT.
END SUMMARY.

1. IN AFTERNOON SESSION, AUG 7, POLADS HAD LENGTHY DISCUSSION ON PRESS TREATMENT AND CBM NOTIFICATION OF AUTUMN FORGE SERIES OF EXERCISES.

2. CONCERNING AUTUMN FORGE PUBLICITY, ALLIES FAVOURED ACTIVE PRESS POLICY AND EXPRESSED GENERAL, ALTHOUGH UNINSTRUCTED, ACCEPTANCE OF TEXT TRANSMITTED REF A. TO GO PART WAY TOWARD MEETING US INTEREST IN PLANING AUTUMN FORGE SERIES IN CBM CONTEXT, DANES SUGGESTED ADDING SENTENCE NOTING THAT "NATIONS INVOLVED IN THE EXERCISE SERIES WILL MAKE NATIONAL NOTIFICATION OF THE MANEUVERS AS APPROPRIATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CSCE FINAL DOCUMENT". PRESS RELEASE TEXT WILL NEXT BE DISCUSSED IN AUGUST 8 DPC/NAC MEETING.

3. DISCUSSION OF NOTIFYING AUTUMN FORGE SERIES IN CBM CONTEXT PROMPTED REHERSAL OF JULY 31 DISCUSSION ALTHOUGH MORE ALLIES WERE NOW ARMED WITH INSTRUCTIONS FROM CAPITALS. MOST VOCAL WERE DANES WHOSE REP (VILLADSEN) SAID THAT WHILE HIS GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED THE AUTUMN FORGE CONCEPT AND AN ACTIVE PRESS POLICY INCLUDING THE PRESS RELEASE DRAWN UP BY THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES, DANISH GOVERNMENT COULD NOT AGREE WITH THE US CBM NOTIFICATION PROPOSAL BECAUSE IT WAS UNNECESSARY, SERVED NO CLEAR PURPOSE, AND WOULD PERHAPS BE CONFUSING AS A FIRST STEP IN POST-CSCE COMPLIANCE ON CBM'S. WHILE DANES FELT ALLIES SHOULD GO AS FAR AS POSSIBLE IN IMPLEMENTING CBM'S NOTIFYING MEASURES NOT STRICTLY CALLED FOR IN GENEVA DOCUMENT MIGHT CAUSE PRECEDENT SETTING PROBLEMS FOR THE ALLIES. MOREOVER, SUGGESTION POSED DIFFICULT PROBLEMS OF NOTIFICATION FORMAT AND OF WHICH ALLIES WOULD DO THE PRESS RELEASE THROUGH ADDITION OF LANGUAGE CITED PARA 2. TURKISH REP (ERALP) AGREED WITH DANISH VIEWS BUT SAID ANKARA WAS PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE ON ISSUE.

4. NETHERLANDS REP (HORAK) SAID GON REMAINED OPPOSED TO OVERALL NOTIFICATION OF AUTUMN FORGER BECAUSE MANY OF ITS COMPONENT FEATURES WERE COMMAND POST EXERCISED, NOT COVERED UNDER CSCE-CBM'S OR WERE TOO DIFFUSE GEOGRAPHICALLY. RATHER THAN CBM NOTIFICATION OF AUTUMN FORGE SERIES, HORAK SAID DUTCH CONFIDENTIAL

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BELIEVED BETTER WAY TO DEMONSTRATE LIBERAL INTERPRETATION OF SPIRIT OF CSCE WOULD BE TO VOLUNTARILY NOTIFY MANEUVERS IN RANGE BETWEEN 10,000 AND 25,000. DUTCH NOTED ALLIES HAD CONSISTENTLY ARGUED IN GENEVA FOR LOWER NUMERICAL NOTIFICATION THRESHOLD AND COULS PURSUE SPIRIT OF CSCE BY PRACTICING NOW WHAT IT HAD EARLIER ESPOUSED. DUTCH WERE, HOWEVER, ALL IN FAVOR OF ACTIVE PUBLIC AFFAIRS TREATMENT FOR AUTUMN FORGE, AND COULD AGREE WITH MC/FORMULATED PRESS RELEASE AS AMENDED BY DANES. BELGIUM AND GERMANS ESSENTIALLY AGREED WITH DUTCH OPPOSITION TO CBM NOTIFICATION OF AUTUMN FORGE WITH FRG REP (HUBER) EXPRESSING CONCERN WITH SUGGESTED DANISH ADDITION TO PRESS RELEASE.

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5. IN RESPONSE TO DANES, DUTCH, ET AL, US REP (LEDOGAR) NOTED THEY HAD PROPOSED IDEAS WHICH WOULD DEMONSTRATE FORTH-COMING IMPLEMENTATION OF SPIRIT OF CSCE. AS THIS WAS SAME MOTIVATION BEHIND US NOTIFICATION PROPOSAL, IT WAS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND OPPOSITION ON NARROW TECHNICAL GROUNDS. US REP DISAGREED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO FORMULATE A NOTIFICATION THAT WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALLIES. INDEED, SUCH A NOTIFICATION MIGHT CLOSELY PARALLEL THE PRESS RELEASE, STRESS THAT IT WAS A VOLUNTARY EFFORT IN EXCESS OF CBM'S REQUIREMENTS AND IN ADDITION TO, NOT AS SUBSTITUTE FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPONENT MANEUVERS COVERED BY THE CBM CRITERIA. ON QUESTION OF WHO WOULD DO NOTIFYING, US REP SUGGESTED THAT ALLIES COULD BE COMPLETELY FLEXIBLE ON THIS ISSUE AND MIGHT, FOR EXAMPLE, ADOPT POLICY IN WHICH NOTIFICATION WOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY DPC ALLIES WHOSE TERRITORY OR FORCES WERE INVOLVED IN THE VARIOUS EXERCISES/ MANEUVERS OF THE SERIES.

7. AT CLOSE OF DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT, DANISH REP SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING SAMPLE TEXT OF WHAT US HAD IN MIND.
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TURKISH REP ECHOED THIS REQUEST AND REITERATED HIS GOVERNMENTS FLEXIBILITY ON THIS ISSUE. IN PRIVATE, POST-MEETING COMMENT, IMS REP (GROUP CAPT SMITH) SAID HE THOUGHT MILITARY COMMITTEE COULD LIVE WITH DIPLOMATIC NOTIFICATION AS SUGGESTED BY US.

8. ON QUESTION OF FRG PROPOSED CBM NOTIFICATION ON GROSSE ROCHADE, (REF C), AND ITS USE AS ILLUSTRATIVE MODEL FOR FUTURE CBM NOTIFICATIONS, DUTCH, TURKS, GREEKS, AND CANADIANS HAD INSTRUCTIONS AGREEING WITH FRG FORMULATION.

9. US REP ASKED WHETHER ALLIES FELT CBM NOTIFICATION SHOULD IDENTIFY SPECIFIC UNITS OR MERELY CITE NUMBER OF BRIGADES, REGIMENTS, DIVISIONS, ETC., INVOLVED IN SPECIFIC MANEUVERS NOTIFIED UNDER CBM'S. GERMANS AND FRENCH NOTED THAT THEY COULD GENERALLY ACCEPT IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIFIC UNITS, THOUGH THEY COULD NOT AGREE THAT THIS WOULD AUTOMATICALLY BE APPROPRIATE IN ALL FUTURE INSTANCES. MC REP (COL WOLFFE, BELGIAN ARMY) SAID INCLUSION OF SPECIFIC UNIT IDENTITIES WAS COMMON FEATURE OF PUBLIC TREATMENT OF MANEUVERS. HOWEVER, NOTIFICATION SHOULD BE SPECIFICALLY REVIEWED BY MILITARY AUTHORITIES FOR CONTENT PRIOR TO ITS TRANSMISSION.

10. IN DISCUSSING CBM NOTIFICATION OF MANEUVERS BELOW THRESHOLD OF 25,000 DUTCH REPEATED PITCH FOR NOTIFICATION IN 10,000-25,000 RANGE, AND TURKISH REP MADE STRONG PLEA FOR NOTIFICATION OF NAVAL AND AMPHIBIOUS MANEUVERS INVOLVING GROUND FORCES. APPLICABLE NOTIFICATION THRESHOLD IN THIS CATEGORY MIGHT GO AS LOW AS 4,000 TROOPS. TURKISH REP ALSO CALLED AGAIN FOR EARLY NOTIFICATION OF DEEP EXPRESS AS CONFIDENCE BUILDING MEASURE. (COMMENT: GREEK REP OFFERED NO OBJECTION TO MENTION OF DEEP EXPRESS IN PRESS RELEASE).

11. CONCERNING FRENCH REACTION TO VARIOUS POINTS DISCUSSED ABOVE, FRANCE REP (BEAUCHATAUD) SAID FACT HE HAD NOT YET RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS REFLECTED SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH QUAI WAS STUDYING THESE ISSUES. HE EXPECTED INSTRUCTIONS OVERNIGHT, HOWEVER, AND ALLIES SHOULD NOT RULE OUT THAT FRENCH WOULD SEEK DISCUSSION IN NAC RATHER THAN DPC ON AUGUST 8.

12. COMMENT: WOULD APPRECIATE BY COB, AUGUST 8, ANY ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE WASHINGTON MIGHT PROVIDE; PARTICULARLY CONFIDENTIAL

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ON AUTUMN FORGE PRESS RELEASE AND FRG GROSSE ROCHADE TEXT. STREATOR.

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